

# Use of Government Passenger Motor Vehicles<sup>1</sup>

(\*\*\*These are illustrative "DO's & DON'Ts" examples - These are not exhaustive lists\*\*\*)

**Key References:** 31 USC §1344; 10 USC 2637; 41 CFR part 102-5; DODD 4500.36;  
DODD 4500.36-R; JFTR ¶ U3200/JTR ¶ C2050

## Key Concepts:

- ?? Government passenger motor vehicles (GOVs) are for official use only. Whether a particular use is "official" is a matter of administrative discretion. All factors must be considered including whether the use is essential to the successful completion of a DOD function, activity, or operation and consistent with the purpose for which the motor vehicle was acquired.
- ?? The spouse of an employee authorized use of GOV may accompany the employee on a space-available, no-increased-cost basis.
- ?? TDY<sup>2</sup>: GOVs may be used between lodging and duty sites if public/commercial transportation is inadequate. Additionally, if public transportation is not available or impractical, GOVs may be used for subsistence, comfort, and health. This authority does not include entertainment or recreation.
- ?? Home-to-Work (HTW): Use of a GOV for HTW travel is prohibited unless specifically authorized. Within DON, SECNAV, CNO, and CMC are authorized HTW. Additionally, SECNAV<sup>3</sup> may authorize employees HTW when (1) essential due to highly unusual circumstances presenting a clear and present danger; (2) an emergency exists; (3) other compelling operational considerations make HTW essential to conduct business; (4) essential for safe/efficient performance of intelligence, protective services, or law enforcement; or (5) required to perform field work. Authorization must be in writing.
- ?? Overseas: Outside the U.S., unified combatant commanders may provide Government transportation, including HTW, for employees and their dependents when public/ private transportation is unsafe or is unavailable.<sup>4</sup>

## Permissible Uses

- ?? Official business (e.g., making rounds of area work sites, attending a meeting, officially participating in a public ceremony).
- ?? Traveling from place of duty to after-hours official functions. GOV must return to place of duty.
- ?? Transporting the employee's spouse with the employee, at no increased cost, to an official function.
- ?? Transporting prospective recruits for interviews/processing/orientation.
- ?? Going to the dry cleaners, barber, drugstore, or a local restaurant while on TDY.
- ?? When in doubt, consult counsel.

## Impermissible Uses

- ?? Going to a private social function (e.g., unofficial birthday ball, hail and farewell, private dinner party).
- ?? Transporting employees not authorized HTW from home to an official function or from the official function to home (impermissible even when the travel distance is less than from work to the official function).
- ?? Doing personal errands/business (e.g., going to the bank or a drive-through).
- ?? Transporting dependents/visitors (e.g., girlfriend/boyfriend, children, parents) other than the spouse or non-spouse escort in a GOV with the employee.
- ?? Going to the movies or bowling alley while on TDY

<sup>1</sup> This information applies only to the use of government owned vehicles and not rental cars. See JTR C2102E and JFTR 3415G for rules pertaining to rental vehicles.

<sup>2</sup> Rental vehicles are considered to be "special conveyances" under the JFTR. As such, the current rules allow their use only for limited official purposes such as for health and welfare.

<sup>3</sup> This authority is not delegable and is limited to an initial period of 15 days, renewable for up to 90-day increments for as long as required by the circumstances.

<sup>4</sup> The initial authorization may not exceed 90 days, renewable for up to 90-day increments for as long as required by the circumstances.